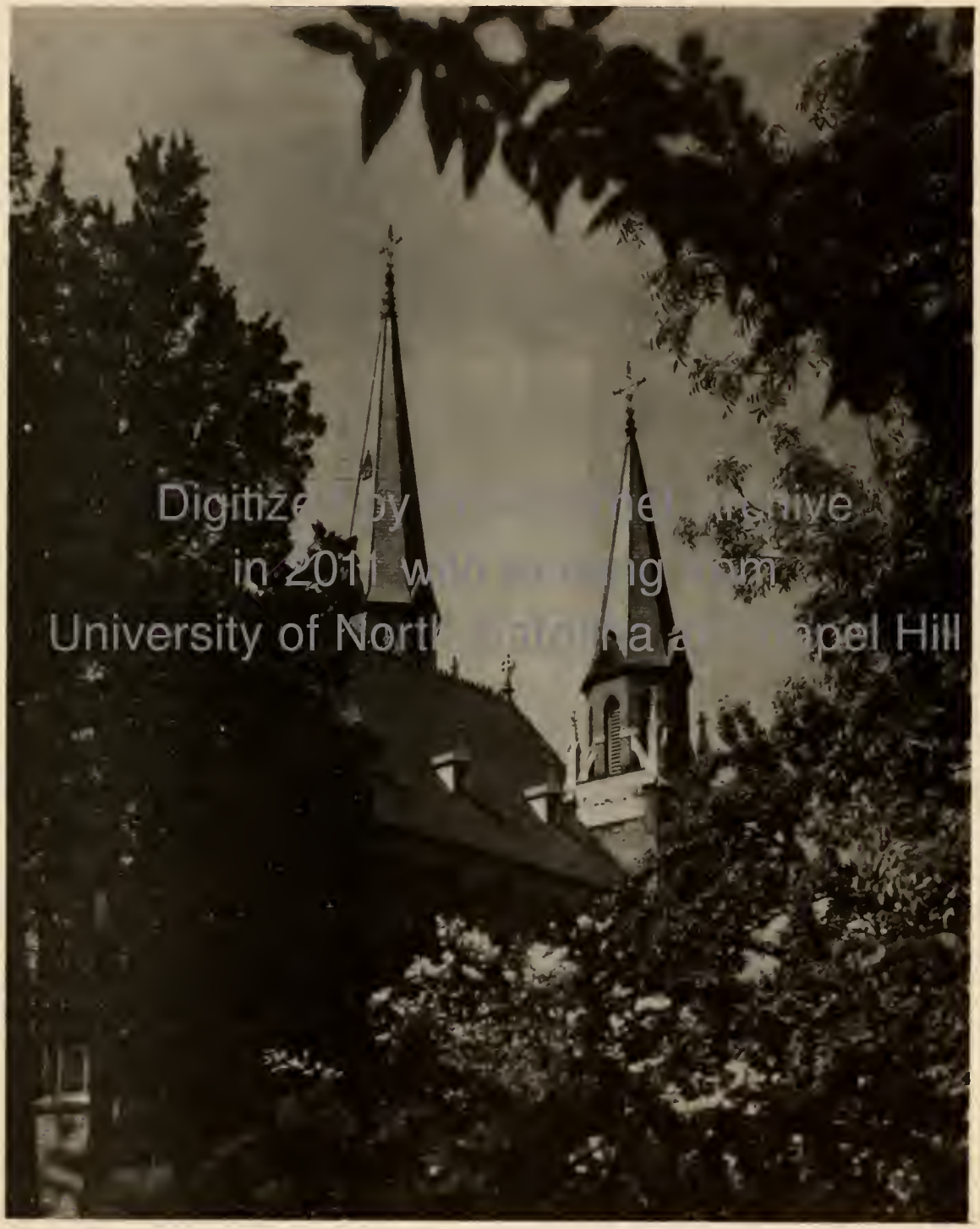
SPIRE OF
1951

The Spirette



"Let us forget the mistakes of the past, and press on to the greater achievements of the future"

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2011 with funding from
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
http://www.archive.org/details/spire1951belm

53083

MIRRORS OF MEMORIES

Compliments of
JONES FURNITURE COMPANY
FURNITURE, RADIOS AND REFRIGERATORS
262-264 West Main Avenue
GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA
FRED H. JONES, Owner
TELEPHONE 5-0061

"WE'RE ON OUR WAY"

President Student Council.....John C. Yacobi

Officers College Graduating Class:

- President.....Harry J. McCarthy, Jr.
- Vice President.....Jack O. Moody
- Secretary.....Joseph E. McCaffrey
- Treasurer.....Francis R. Souza
- Moderator.....Father Matthew, O.S.B.

THE COLLEGE

Mooney Jewelers

108 E. 4th St. Phone 4-5674

Charlotte 2, N. C.

"Expert Watch Repairing"

HARRY PARKER CO.

Compliments

of the

Charlotte Council

Knights of Columbus

Compliments

Charles Moody Co.

Charlotte, N. C.

Compliments

Bank of Belmont

Belmont, N. C.

OUR FRIENDS

F. & E. CHECKWRITING CO.
Charlotte, N. C.

JOHN E. ECK
Gastonia, N. C.

POUND & MOORE CO.
Charlotte, N. C.

STOWE MERCANTILE CO.
Belmont, N. C.

Compliments

Ralph A. Padgett

Jeweler

Belmont, N. C.

"WE MOVE FORWARD - - ON NEW TOURS"

ST. LEO'S HALL —— THE PREP SCHOOL

President Student Council ..... Michael G. P. Walsh, Jr.
Secretary ..... Thomas A. Quigley

Officers Prep Graduating Class:

Jim Pat Ros ..... President
Michael G. P. Walsh, Jr. ..... Vice President
J. Marshall McDonnell ..... Treasurer
Francis R. Moeslein, Jr. ..... Secretary
Mr. David J. Gorney ..... Moderator

"The World Makes Way For A Determined Man"

THE COLLEGE GRADUATES!

They are from left to right, FOURTH ROW: Gerard White, Wilbur Loving, Donald Flaherty, Horace Harris, George Reiner, Belton Patty, Robert Driscoll.

THIRD ROW: Robert Kelly, Thomas Melvin, Erskine Rhodes, Gene Wilson, John Yacobi, Gordon Payne, Silas Moore, Gene Reeves, Samuel Rhyne, Thomas Hovis, Harry Brown, Edmund Rabil.

SECOND ROW: Emmett Hogan, August Novak, Rafael Cowley, Francisco Souza, Harry McCarthy, Jack Moody, Joseph McCaffrey, Frank Gragnani, Porter Gibson, Frank Pelone.

FRONT ROW: Wells McConnell, Henry Kmiec, Frank Stolte, David Kessinger, Otis Helms.

ABSENT: William Allen, Richard Bain, James Cloniger, William Danco, Aubrey Hollar, Roger Wright, Charles Kienast, Joseph Moore, Wilburn Queen, Norris Rumfelt, Joseph Shine, Thomas Smiley, Fred Smith, John Wright.

"The Man Ever Loaded With An Excuse Seldom Gets There"

THE PREP GRADUATES!

Introducing from left to right, BACK ROW: Van Gnann, Herbert Ferguson, Jr., Fred Jones, Jose Ysern, Thomas Quigley.

FRONT ROW: William Frain, Frank Moeslein, Jim Pat Ros, Michael Walsh, J. Marshall McDonnell, Charles Nobles.

DEDICATION

FATHER FLORIAN S. CHECKHART, O.S.B.

Treasurer 1933 to 1951

We, the Graduates of Belmont Abbey College and Preparatory School, together with all the students past and present, respectfully dedicate this SPIRETTE to his memory because "Great servants of God are often most careful about little things. They waste nothing. So we must be careful; life must have its 'Dont's' as well as its 'Do's'."

"Have Courage!" . . . . . "Have Confidence!"

THE CLASSES

COLLEGE FROSH

FOURTH ROW: Robert Lineberger, John Gallen, Seth Brown, Frank Peterson, Joseph Sheenan, Robert Kelleher, Yi-Chun (Pat) Chang.
THIRD ROW: Hugh Shine, Jack Noble, William Caskey, John Chesser, Gene Hanna, Edward Anderson, Richard Mathews, Harold Kusterer, Malcolm Rawlins, Norman Bain, B. T. Green.
SECOND ROW: Walter Lucas, Jr., William Boatwright, Daniel Blackwood, William Ach, William Kennedy, Frank Creery, Edward McCaffrey, Gene Ratchford, Albert Franklin, Manuel Blas, Luther Lineberger.
FRONT ROW: Douglas Thomas, Patrick Neilson, Arthur Dowdy, Thomas Raftery, Carroll Thomas, Thomas Davis, Joseph McMahon.
ABSENT: Shao-Hsiang (Luke) Chang, Phil De Turk, David Horne, Kenneth Huffstetler, Lindsay McElwee, Howell Moore, Melvin Rabb, Franklin Rozzell, Joseph Shackelford, Robert Yacobi.

PREP III

BACK ROW: Gerald Genest, Gerald Leeper, Peter Harris, Gerald Sinkoe, Edward McDonald, Charles Newton, Joseph Bistany.
CENTER ROW: Guy Titman, Jerrell Mock, Christopher Dudley, William Mundy, Rory Ros, Raymond McDermott, Richard Spencer, Jr.
FRONT ROW: Rodolfo Lizama, Edward Palomo, Charles Wade, John Anderson, George Stuart, John Williamson, Howell Mann.

PREP II

BACK ROW: Harvey Elmore, Jr., Colin Campbell, John Mercer.
CENTER ROW: Robert Suggs, Robert Essex, George Younginer, Donald Barkley, Thomas Shaw, Thomas Barnett.
FRONT ROW: Sammy Hagley, John Grose, Edward Quigley, Bucky Davis, John Borrini, Louis Kaman, Gary Lyons.

PREP I

BACK ROW: Robert Lewis, Mark Hedrick, Louis Martinez, Dick Tart, Donald Shirley, Robert Barnett.
FRONT ROW: Joseph Alfano, Danny Gardner, James Anderson, Denny Freeman, Patrick McDonnell, Manuel Lopez, Donald Morgan.
ABSENT: Jack Martin.

"WITHIN THESE WALLS"

"There Is No Such Thing As Undoing What We Have Done"

ABBEY PLAYERS: The dramatic group is composed of students from Sacred Heart College and Belmont Abbey College. They are one of the most active clubs in college life. Seven successful productions in the 1950-1951 season is their record, viz: BROTHER ORCHID, SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER, THE RIVALS, THE YELLOW SHEET, PULLING THE CURTAIN, VISION (Passiontide Drama) and ALL MY SONS. Forty-one students from the two schools participated in the busy season. The officers are: President—Belton Patty; Vice President—Helen Anderson; Treasurer—Robert Kelleher; Secretary—Frank Stolte; Director—Mr. David J. Gorney.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (College): The season was Christmas, 1950. Men were of good cheer. Havana, Cuba saw a group of Abbeymen gather with Fathers Bernard, Cuthbert, and Anselm as their guests. The result of this meeting was an organization of an active and working college alumni association. Jose Atienza and Nicholas Medina are the leaders of this new movement to stir up the spark into a flame of interested activity among all former Abbeymen.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (Prep): Organized in December, 1949 with its purpose being a non-profit organization for the development of an active interest in the Alma Mater as active members and as alumni. The organization will promote better understanding of viral affairs of school and members at large as well as everlasting good fellowship for those who desire it.

BETA ALPHA SIGMA is a service club for the benefit of promoting school spirit and activities. The Club has done much to better the school and relationship of students to Abbey Life. The Officers: President Jerry White; Vice President Joe McCaffrey; Secretary Dick Bain; Treasurer Frank Souza; Moderator Father Anthony, O.S.B.

The Class Organizations:

PREP I: We are the first year men. We've been initiated into Abbey life. Our purpose this year was to watch and learn. Under the guiding hand of our Moderator, Father Anthony, O.S.B., and our President, Bob Barnett; Vice President, Danny Gardner; Treasurer, Louis Martinez; and Jim Anderson as Secretary, we have made an impression.

PREP II: We sponsored a few raffles and the highly successful "Sophomore Hop" during the year. At the same time much of our work was to point and lay plans for a busy and productive third year. Our mission has been accomplished! Our officers were Bucky Davis, President; Ed Quigley, Vice-President; Jack Grose, Treasurer; John Borrini, Secretary; and Mr. David J. Gorney, Moderator.

PREP III: We are responsible for the Junior-Senior Banquet. With Father Anselm, O.S.B., as Moderator; John Anderson, President; George Stuart, Vice President; John Williamson, Secretary; Charles Wade as Treasurer, we marched onward. The Armistice Day Dance, the raffle of the Record Player, being hosts to the annual "April Shag" dance, the Banquet, the Class Picnic, were successfully completed. Scholastically, we were able to hold "an above average" position.

PREP IV: We are the Seventy-Third graduating class of the Belmont Abbey Prep Department and the smallest since the war. Our projects for the year have been successfully completed. We had printed Birthday Card greetings and Christmas Card greetings for the entire student body. We sponsored the Christmas Play. We undertook the publication of "THE SPIRETTE". We continued the tradition of holding the annual "SPRING SWING" Dance.

COLLEGE FRESHMEN: We are an average college freshman class. We played hard at sports; we studied; we remembered our friends in sickness and in health; we sponsored the satirical farce "PULLING THE CURTAIN"; and, we enjoyed our St. Patrick's Dance; the final prom of the year was ours to make a success—you are the judges. The class officers were President Frank Creery; Vice President William Kennedy; Secretary William Ach; Treasurer Edward McCaffrey; and Moderator Father Raphael, O.S.B.

COLLEGE SOPHOMORES with Father Matthew, O.S.B., as Moderator, sponsored successfully the traditional Christmas Formal. Members of the class worked unceasingly with delegates on a Constitution for the new Student Government. This was approved by the student body.

THE CONTACT: This is our student newspaper, published monthly, carrying campus news, editorials, and literary articles. This publication provides an outlet for the journalistic ventures of the students. Twenty-five members make up the staff under the direction of the faculty adviser, Father John, O.S.B., whose place was taken in April by Father Matthew, O.S.B.

PREP DAY STUDENTS' GROUP has for its officers President Frank Moeslein; Vice President J. Marshall McDonnell; Secretary Phillip Martin; Treasurer Jerry Leeper; Moderator Father Anthony, O.S.B. It was organized in October with the purpose of bringing the Off-Campus men closer to the Abbey and of making them an integral part of the school.

PHI THETA KAPPA: The ideals of Belmont Abbey's ZETA LAMBDA Chapter of the national junior college honorary society, The Phi Theta Kappa, are to give greater incentive to study and scholarship; to promote student leadership; to develop character; to cultivate fellowship and create a greater school spirit among the students of Belmont Abbey College.

ALPHA PI DELTA SIGMA: The purpose of the Prep school's ALPHA PI DELTA SIGMA Chapter of the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools is: to create an enthusiasm for scholarship; to stimulate a desire to render service; to promote worthy leadership; and to encourage the development of character in the students of Belmont Abbey Preparatory School.

THE COLLEGE MONOGRAM CLUB'S purpose is to promote loyalty, school spirit, good sportsmanship and to foster a friendly feeling among those who represent the Abbey in athletic competition. The group has been socially active during the past year. All proceeds realized are used in purchasing athletic sweaters for all eligible members. The officers of this organization are: President Frank Gragnani; Vice President Bob Kelly; Treasurer Dick Bain; Secretary "Hoot" Gibson; Sgt.-at-Arms Tom Melvin.

THE PREP MONOGRAM CLUB'S officers are William Frain, President; Chris Dudley, Vice-President; Van Gnann, Secretary-Treasurer. Any member of the Prep School who has earned a monogram in any of the major sports is eligible for membership. The club promotes loyalty to the school and friendship among the athletes who represent the school in competitive sports.

THE PSER CLUB is an organization devoted to the study of political, social, economic, and religious questions through the round table discussions. This study enables the participants to gain a clear idea of the theoretical and practical importance of these things to everyday life.

THE RIFLE TEAM is coached by Sgt. Costner and is a member of the National Rifle Association of America. The club's purpose is not only to promote marksmanship, but also sportsmanship and good fellowship. A modern indoor range is located on the fourth floor of the Administration Building. Competitive matches are held with other colleges as well as match meets among the local members.

ST. BENEDICT'S SOCIETY is intended for the priesthood student in general and candidates for the Benedictine Order, in particular. The society holds its meetings monthly. Topics pertaining to vocations and religion are discussed and studied. Father Walter, O.S.B., is the Moderator.

ST. JOHN BERCHMANS' SOCIETY was founded in 1914, for the purpose of preparing young men to assist at the liturgical services in the Abbey Cathedral. The importance of young altar boys to serve at the sacred ceremonies cannot be estimated, but to witness the young men as they take part in the holy rites is an inspiring sight. Father Thomas, O.S.B., is the Moderator.

SCIENCE CLUB: During the academic year of 1950-1951, the Science club came into an important position in the life of many Abbeymen. Its purpose is purely vocational and gives those interested an opportunity to hear and interview prominent people employed in scientific endeavors. It is one of the most active clubs on the campus. The officers are President Joseph McCaffrey; Secretary Norman Bain; Moderator Mr. Edward J. Stry.

STUDENT COUNCIL (College): One of the most important functions of the student government in a Catholic College is to train young people to live a good moral life. The Student Council of Belmont Abbey College strives to guide and promote social activities, to foster a spirit of companionship among the student body and to do honor to the name of Belmont Abbey College.

STUDENT COUNCIL (Prep): Is organized primarily to aid the students by giving advice and direction. It fosters leadership, initiative, and self-government. The council consists of student leaders in the classes and various organizations. The president of the Council is elected by the student body.

MIRRORS OF MEMORIES

"There Never Is A Day When It Is Not Worth Your While To Be At Your Best"

MIRRORS OF MEMORIES

THE YEAR

"No Matter What You May Undertake, Education, Forethought And Organization Will Help You To Accomplish It Better"

September 15, 1950!!! Bells began to ring! In procession we entered the Abbey Cathedral. We were awed by the solemnity, the richness, the beauty of the ceremony. The inspirational sermon made us resolve to "make good" in this year of study. Six days later we heard wafting from the gym music, music, music. The annual Introductory dance was on in full swing. We watched the girls on our side of the gym and they watched us from their side of the gym. What beautiful music was wasted—remember?

Now in October there was much done. Initiations were in progress or already completed. The bells continued to ring long and loud but we were also becoming accustomed to a new sound which came to us over the PA System. We were able to distinguish Mess Call from Taps. The big event of the month was attending the show "BROTHER ORCHID" given by the reactivated ABBEY PLAYERS. This was an all male cast and they were all stars from the silent Dum Dum to Little John Sarto (alias Brother Orchid). This was on the 27th. And oh yes, many of us journeyed to Sacred Heart College for the Hallowe'en Dance.

The Third Prep became the first class organization to sponsor a social event. This was the Armistice Day Dance. These lads of the Third Prep are hustlers. For a good reason too—they've a heavy date in May—the annual Junior-Senior Banquet. November was also the month in which the height of Intramural Competition was in progress. The spirit of competition ofttimes produced a bloody nose here and a black eye there—d'ya recall?

Somehow, when December arrives, the spirit of Christmas permeates the air. The social activities have a tendency to lean to the happy holiday season. On the 2nd day of the last month of the year the successful and brilliant Christmas Formal Dance sponsored by the Graduating Class was held. The decorative motif was in the Yuletide spirit and quite breathtaking. We were seeing the ABBEY PLAYERS for the second time this season. Their presentation sponsored by the Fourth Prep was a series of One Act Plays. They were "THE YELLOW SHEET" (a comedy of campus journalism); "THE RIVALS" and "SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER" (abridged plays of the original famous works). This presentation was good for a thousand laughs.

How the heart leaped after Taps, a week before the holidays—over the PA system came the soft and sweet Christmas Carols. And then—the last bell! We were homeward bound for the Christmas vacation.

Happy New Year! January, the month of exams, was upon us. Resolutions to do better dropped by the way. We followed the battles of the two representative teams on the hardwood. The Crimson and White Crusaders under Coach Wheeler were new and green and had an uphill fight all season. The Green and White Ramblers of Fr. Thomas, O.S.B., enjoyed a split season on wins and losses.

In February, Ash Wednesday and the holy season of Lent arrived early. On the 4th, the ABBEY PLAYERS presented a satirical farce "PULLING THE CURTAIN". This play was sponsored by the Freshman Class. On the 6th, the BETA ALPHA SIGMA again came through and gave us the Annual Mardi Gras Dance. Fun and frolic reigned supreme.

March came in like a lion and kept on roaring all the way. This was a very busy time for all. The date was the 2nd when the Ramblers went to Asheville and won the first K. of C. Catholic High School tournament. PHI THETA KAPPA held its initiation and banquet on the 8th. Our Retreat was a good one and the days were 9-10-11. The Frosh came through with the St. Patrick's Day Dance. Late that night, death took the college treasurer, Father Florian, O.S.B., from our midst. On the 18th the ABBEY PLAYERS presented the Passiontide Drama "VISION". The 20th was a surprise because the bells stopped ringing and the bugles were quieted at noon instead of three: The Easter holidays began. The 29th ended the vacation and on the 30th we were attending a Prize Dance at Sacred Heart College.

We are on the last lap of school—or almost the end is in sight. The collegians are frantically doing research work for assigned Theses. The Prepsters are worrying about graduation; others, about passing. There was a Weiner Roast at SHC on the 3rd. The transferred Feast of St. Benedict on the 4th was enjoyed by attending the colorful holy rites in the Cathedral and a free day was acceptable.

The Second Prep held its annual "SOPHOMORE HOP" on the 6th. The 20th was a gala date because the Third Prep gave us the now famous "APRIL SHAG" The social pace is killing. Reading this, one would think that we were living only for the social festivities. How wrong the thought! We had our intramural matches in tennis, handball, horseshoes, etc., when weather permitted. Our Crusaders were a power on the diamond and looked like champions. Scholastically we were bearing down—at long last!

May, the last month of hard work! Another year slowly grinds to an end. As this report goes to press we have the following dates facing us. The 3rd is Ascension Thursday and a free day. The Fourth Prep's biggest little dance "SPRING SWING" is due on the 5th. The Beta Alpha Sigma's picnic is scheduled for the 6th. We'll all be present for Father Gabriel's, St. Benedict's Bazaar on the 9th (we hope). The 12th has been chosen as the Second Prep's picnic day. The 17th will find the Junior-Senior Banquet in full enjoyment. The final formal dance on the 19th. And on the 20th, the final production by the ABBEY PLAYERS will take place—it's Arthur Miller's "ALL MY SONS". The 28th will see us deep in exams—ugh! Good luck to all.

June—it's all over now! Our Solemn Academic Mass of Thanksgiving and Baccalaureate Sermon takes place in the Abbey Cathedral on the 3rd. Monday the 4th, the graduating class of the Prep Department will hold its class day exercises in the college auditorium. June the 5th is the day of days—Graduation! So another year has passed into history. Goodbye, good luck, God Bless all of us.

Autographs

CRUSADERS

Crusader Basketball and Baseball Review

BY THE CONTACT SPORTS STAFF

Usually when a school has a team that wins only five out of 19 contests, people start wondering what is wrong. There is any number of factors that can be considered in the case of this year's Crusader five. Looking for the different weaknesses, we see that among the prominent are: missing free throws (the Crimson and White lost five close ones due to their inaccuracy from the 15 foot marker), early season inexperience, and poor fan support.

When Coach Wheeler's original five took to the floor last November, they were De Turk, a freshman from Upper Darby, Pa., with no experience, at center; Kelly, last season's big star and the captain, and Shine, a four-year player from Goldsboro High School, as forwards; Gibson, another returnee, and Yacobi of Hampton High School, at guards. Throughout the games, this starting lineup varied somewhat but the boys rounded into a fine smooth-working squad that looked like a good club during their last seven games.

So now the 1951 season is finished. It was one which all who really followed the squad will remember; for, although the record isn't one to be envied, it was complete with thrills and some fine playing. However, on the good side of the ledger, we find that four of the boys who provided most of the season's punch will be returning. Center De Turk, who amassed a total of (327) markers, Shine (149), Yacobi (95), and Raftery, all will be back in the crimson uniforms if khaki uniforms aren't substituted. Peterson, a Winston-Salem freshman who missed most of the season with a broken arm, Rozzelle, Creery, and Kennedy will make the nucleus for a good team.

With next season's outcome a secret of the future, we want to say goodbye and wish luck to Captain Bob Kelly who easily was the most outstanding player on both defense and offense with a 184 total; also, gratitude to Frank Gragnani and Hoot Gibson and to reserves John Yacobi and Frank Souza, who possessed the kind of team spirit that we hope will be instilled for the next season.

BASEBALL REVIEW

With a five won and two lost record at this writing, the 1951 edition of the Belmont Abbey baseball team stands a fine chance of coming out on the top of the heap, come May 20. Gene Hanna is the main reason for the Abbeymen's third place position. Sam Rhyne, who has been doubling as short-stop pitcher dropped two heartbreakers. Tommy Davis has one win—that a 17 run slugfest in which he showed fine form. Blas and Dudley round out the Abbey mound staff. Captain Dick Bain has been doing fine work behind the plate. First base is being ably handled by Bill Frain. Frank Gragnani is a mainstay at second. Otis Helms and Erskine Rhodes, respectively, have been dividing third base chores. Sam Rhyne at short completes the infield. In Rhyne and Gragnani, Coach Wheeler possesses a better than average double-play duo. Jim Ros, a Prep speedster, is in left field and Tom Melvin is proving to be a terrific asset in center. Hanna and Bob Kelly have been sharing right field duties.

Frank Creery and Jerry Leeper are being used as utility infielders.

Graduates on the '51 roster include Sam Rhyne, Frank Gragnani, Bob Kelly, Tom Melvin, Captain Dick Bain, Erskine Rhodes and Otis Helms.

"Contact" will have to complete this history as we go to press before the baseball season ends.

CRUSADERS - - THEIR PICTORIAL REVIEW

BACK ROW: Howard Wheeler, Coach, John Yacobi, Robert Yacobi, Porter Gibson, Hugh Shine, Gene Ratchford, Richard Mathews, Mgr.

FRONT ROW: Edward Rabil, Mgr., Frank Gragnani, Bill Kennedy, Bob Kelly, Captain, Phil De Turk, Frank Creery, Tom Raftery, Jack Shine, Mgr.

ABSENT: Frank Souza, Frank Rozelle.

THE RAMBLERS

THE GREEN AND WHITE

When the call was issued for the Rambler Basketball candidates, about forty boys tried out. In some schools this wouldn't be anything out of the ordinary, but when you realize that there are only about seventy boys in the entire Prep Department, it is quite an example of school spirit.

All Abbeymen are justly proud of the small Green and White squad. Fighting tooth and nail, the Ramblers asked no quarter and gave none.

The season record is not impressive, but they lost only three games by more than four points. A fourteen game schedule was split in even numbers lost-won. With a new coach, Father Thomas, O.S.B., at the helm, the team displayed fight and gameness in all their play.

At the end of the regular season, the Ramblers journeyed to Asheville to participate in the first annual Knight of Columbus Basketball Tournament. This was an invitational tourney for the Catholic High schools of North Carolina. The Ramblers defeated Catholic 66-17 in the first round and Cathedral Latin of Raleigh 46-32 to take the championship.

A permanent trophy was brought home and the boys have one leg on the beautiful K. of C. Rotating Trophy. Two more successive wins are necessary for permanent ownership.

The Rambler spirit is a wholesome picture of what is meant by the Abbey spirit. Their zest to win is only overshadowed by their sportsmanship. They are true representatives of the Abbey.

THE PREP INTRAMURAL PROGRAM

King Football had gone from us by official decree. What now? What was there left to occupy the lively spirits of seventy odd Prepsters? In the minds of all, only bleakness and despair reigned.

But, our fretting was to no avail. Coach Wheeler and Father Kevin, O.S.B., had a full intramural program mapped out for us to participate in and enjoy. We were to have baseball, football, tennis, handball, volleyball, basketball, ad infinitum.

Four captains were chosen from the entire group, who in turn, from a hat, picked their teams. With such a beginning, anything could happen—and did. Never was a sport in any field so hotly contested. The participants became scrappers with a never-say-die spirit. The seasons progressed and we found Captain Bill Frain's YANKEES supreme in Baseball and Football and Captain George Stuart's GLOBETROTTERS, giants of the hardwood, win the championship in Basketball.

It is springtime again, and we find the young men busy on the courts of tennis, handball, horseshoes, and the diamond. At this writing two new champs have been crowned—Tom Quigley in Tennis and Jose Ysern in Handball. The program is far from being complete but as the printer is calling for "copy", we stop and refer you to final results which will appear in CONTACT.

SEVENTY - FIVE YEARS OF PROGRESS

"You Can't Make Good Unless You Are Good"

In the year of Our Lord 1875, the Benedictine Order acquired the Caldwell Plantation in the Piedmont region of North Carolina. The Rev. Dr. J. J. O'Connell donated the land. In 1896, Father Herman Wolfe, O.S.B., arrived at the Caldwell farm. This date marks the beginning of what is now Belmont Abbey Junior College and Prep School. Father Herman called the place "Maria Stein" (Mary of the Stone) because of a large shaft of granite which was found on the property. It had served both as an Indian altar, and as a block on which slaves were sold. The name was later changed to Mary-Help-of-Christians Abbey, and St. Mary's College, and finally to its present title.

Two boys from Richmond, along with Frederick and Samuel Gross from Charlotte, became the first students. The first official school year began in the Fall of 1878. In March, 1877, Father Julius Kelly reached the new Priory. Most of the credit for building a small chapel belongs to him. Before the institution was much older, Abbot Wimmer left Saint Vincent's in Pennsylvania and visited the school. He lifted the faltering spirits of the founders. When school started in 1881, a new brick building was used for the classrooms. This building is now a part of the monastery. It is interesting to note that the bricks which were used to build the original structures were made by the Brothers on the premises. They were baked in the sun and are now considered quite valuable.

Father O'Connell, the original donor, came to the little community and took up his permanent residence here. Little progress was made in the next few years, and by 1884 only three priests remained on the faculty. Abbot Wimmer, in order to save the foundation, enlisted eight monks who agreed to augment the declining staff of the school. In November, 1884, Rome elevated "Mary Help" to the dignity of an Abbey. On July fourteenth, 1885, Father Leo Haid was elected the first Abbot of "Mary Help" Abbey.

In the next decade, a new college building was erected and the school received its charter from the State of North Carolina. On May 7, 1891, the Grotto was dedicated. It is a remarkable replica of the place where Saint Bernadette saw Our Lady. One year later Abbot Haid, now Bishop and Vicar Apostolic of North Carolina, laid the corner-stone of the new Abbey Cathedral.

On the morning of May 19, 1900, a fire broke out in the new west wing of the College. The flames destroyed the building and caused a loss of more than one hundred thousand dollars. It was rebuilt immediately, and the college opened as usual in September. In 1924, Bishop Haid passed away and was succeeded by the present Abbot, the Rt. Rev. Vincent G. Taylor, O.S.B. In recent years, a new gymnasium, along with several smaller buildings, and a new water system, have been added to the Abbey. The old gymnasium has been renovated and is now the library; the west wing of the brother's house has become a modern science building. In seventy-five years, Belmont Abbey has developed into a flourishing institution. It is historic in its traditions, Christian in its principles, and is regarded as one of the finest Junior Colleges in the South. At the Abbey, mental, physical, and spiritual development forms modern Christian gentlemen . . . Abbeymen.

THE ADMINISTRATION

"The Blessing Of Earth Is Toil"

REV. BERNARD L. ROSSWOG, O.S.B.
The Rector

REV. CUTHBERT E. ALLEN, O.S.B.
College Dean

REV. ANTHONY CAHILL, O.S.B.
Prep Dean

RT. REV. VINCENT G. TAYLOR, D.D., O.S.B.
Abbot-President

REV. WALTER COGGINS, O.S.B.
Chaplain

REV. RAPHAEL BRIDGES, O.S.B.
Assistant College Dean

THE SPIRETTE STAFF

"The Great End Of Life Is Not Knowledge But Actions"

FRANCIS R. MOESLEIN, JR.
Editor

MR. DAVID J. GORNEY
Moderator

The Graduating Class of Belmont Abbey Preparatory School, who made this publication a reality, express their sincere appreciation to those Abbeymen, who, realizing the importance of this endeavor, gave aid unstintedly.

The Alma Mater Hymn

Hail! Alma Mater, hail dear ol' Abbey,
We are thy sons and thee we love;
Faithful we'll always be
Strengthened in loyalty—
With help from above.

The Varsity Victory Song

Hail to the Crimson
Hail! to the White;
Hail! Alma Mater, we'll always fight;
We love no other—
Let our motto be:
Victory, Abbeymen,
Varsity!

Directory of College Graduates and Preparatory School Graduates

COLLEGE GRADUATES

Allen, William Marcus, Jr. — 207 N. Central Ave., Belmont, N. C.
Bain, Richard E. — Crozet, Va.
Brown, Harry Edwin — 406 W. Sixth Ave., Gastonia, N. C.
Cowley, Rafael — Calle 13 #859 ent. 4 y 6 Vedado, Havana, Cuba
Danco, William John — 1308 Oleander Ave., Norfolk 6, Va.
Driscoll, Robert William — Carmel Road, Charlotte, N. C.
Flaherty, Donald Joseph — 1375 E. 34th St., Brooklyn 10, N. Y.
Gibson, John Porter — 1816 East Blvd., Charlotte 3, N. C.
Gragnani, Francis Dominic — 3 South Blvd., Richmond 21, Va.
Helms, Otis Dwight — (Box 203), N. Belmont, N. C.
Hollar, Aubrey Cepn — Mt. Island Rd., Mt. Holly, N. C.
Hovis, Lowell Thomas — 58 N. Trent St. (Box 525) Belmont, N. C.
Kelly, Robert Kevin — 1338 Eleventh Ave., Brooklyn 15, N. Y.
Kessinger, David Egan — 69 Alleghany St., Clifton Forge, Va.
Kienast, Charles Frank — R. F. D. #1, Chipley, Ga.
Kmiec, Henry Martin — 1416 Princeton Ave., Trenton 8, N. J.
Loving, Wilbur Monroe — 2903 Woodcliff Ave., Richmond 22, Va.
McCaffrey, Joseph Edwin — care International Paper Co., Georgetown, S. C.
McCarthy, Harry Joseph, Jr. — 1404 Raleigh Ave., Hampton, Va.
McConnell, Abram Wells — Route 1, Mt. Holly, N. C.
Melvin, Thomas Joseph — 4006 Park Ave., Richmond 21, Va.
Moody, Jack Owen, Jr. — 39 Main St., Cooleemee, N. C.
Moore, Joe Taylor — 1020 Ridge Street, Gastonia, N. C.
Moore, Silas Alton — Stanley, N. C.
Novak, August — Belmont Abbey College, Belmont, N. C.
Patty, Belton — 25 Clyde Street, Asheville, N. C.
Payne, Gordon Beames — Union Road, Gastonia, N. C.
Pelone, Francis Wheeler — 621 E. Fremont, Charlotte, N C.
Rabil, Edmond John — 503 Kenmore Ave., Louisburg, N. C.
Reeves, Gene Sigmon — R. F. D. #2, Gastonia, N. C.
Reiner, George Henry — Southern Pines, N. C.
Rhyne, Samuel Cornelius — (Box) 342, Dallas, N. C.
Rumfelt, Norris Richard — 63 Garrison, Belmont, N. C.
Shine, John Faison, Jr. — 1102 Laurel, Goldsboro, N. C.
Smiley, Thomas Edgar — 220 Garrison, Bolmont, N. C.
Smith, Fred — 1007 State Street, Charlotte, N. C.
Souza, Francisco Rodolfo — care Cia Agricola de Guatemala, Tuquisate, Guatamala
Stolte, Francis Vincent — 276 Conover St., So. Amboy, N. J.
White, Gerard Peter — 318 Grandin Road, Charlotte, N. C.
Wilson, Gene Francis — 109 Edgefield Ave., Gastonia, N. C.
Wright, John Evans — 403 Springdale Ave., Winston-Salem, N. C.
Wright, William Roger — 184 Center St., Cramerton, N. C.
Yacobi, John Carroll — 129 Locust Ave., Hampton, Va.

PREP GRADUATES

Ferguson, Herbert Earl — 511 Central Ave., Belmont, N. C.
Frain, William Joseph III — 49 East 59th St., Savannah, Ga.
Gnann, Van Clark — Deerfield Beach, Fla. (Box 638)
Isern, Peter Joseph — 722 San Benigno, Havana, Cuba
Jones, Fred Ridgeway — 1305 Jackson Road, Gastonia, N. C.
Martin, Phillip Edward — North Main St., Mount Holly, N. C.
McDonnell, Joseph Marshall — 115 Bryan St., Belmont, N. C.
Moeslein, Francis Raymond, Jr. — 1500 Kenilworth Ave., Charlotte, N. C.
Nobles, Alfred Charlers — 6 Willobank, Georgetown, S. C.
Quigley, Thomas Augustine — 527 Poindexter Drive, Charlotte 3, N. C.
Ros, James Patrick — 518 Prince St. (Box 175), Georgetown, S. C.
Walsh, Michael Gerard Patrick, Jr. — (Box 1171), Youngs Rd., Southern Pines, N. C.

53083